

## **ESIF Collaboration**



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**ESIF Workshop** 

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#### **Primary Contractual Mechanisms for Working with NREL**

- CRADA Cooperative Research and Development Agreement
- Work for Others Agreements

Option chosen is dependent upon the customer/partner and needs of the project, such as intellectual property management, scope of work, contract amount, and time frame.

## **Types of CRADAs**

- Funds-in CRADA partner funds some portion of NREL's costs to perform work
- Shared Resource CRADA each partner uses their own internal resources; no funds exchanged

#### **CRADA Selection Factors**

- Work must be collaborative R&D
- May be 100% funded by industrial partner, and most include in-kind contribution
- DOE approval required; DOE signs CRADA too
- Each partner can take title to its own CRADAgenerated IP; joint inventions are jointly-owned
- Partner may negotiate option to license NREL CRADA inventions up to 6 months after CRADA expiration, for reasonable terms

# **Work for Others (WFO) Agreements**

- Provides other federal agencies (non-DOE), industry, state and local or foreign governments access to Lab's unique facilities and expertise.
- Work is paid 100% by the Sponsor

#### **WFO Selection Factors**

- Sponsored R&D and unique technical services
- Non-collaborative
- Lab may not directly compete with private industry
- DOE approval required
- Sponsor may elect to take title to Laboratorygenerated inventions under WFO

## **Technical Services Agreement**

- Type of WFO
- For services such as consulting, analysis or testing which are not expected to result in an invention.
- Up to 3 years and \$250K in value
- Pre-approved, reduced time to get in place but terms and conditions are "as is"

## **Analytical Services Agreement**

- Type of WFO
- Typically used for testing services
- Up to 3 months and \$25K in value
- Pre-approved, reduced time to get in place but terms and conditions are "as is"

## **Other Options for Partnering**

- Memorandum of Understanding
  - Nonbinding statement of intentions between parties
- Non-Disclosure Agreement
  - Protects limited scope collaboration discussions
- License Agreement
  - NREL technology may be licensed for negotiated, reasonable terms

### **Doing Business with NREL**

- Managed and Operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC (a non-profit entity)
- Negotiations begin with identification of technical team and creation of mutually acceptable description of work and budget
- Time for execution of agreements varies depending on agreement type and extent of negotiation of terms.